NO. 42

PEP COMICS

SEPT.

ARCHIE TALKS TUNE IN YOUR RADIO OVER THE BLUE NETWORK

10¢

MLJ

SHIELD G-MAN CLUB

EMERGENCY BULLETIN NO. 21

Boy, we're declaring this a holiday from our usual official business. And I don't have to tell you why. The cover explains everything.

ARCHIE ANDREWS IS ON THE RADIO!

Here's a personal message: Archie has asked Dusty and me to relay to all you members of the Shield G-Man Club a million million thanks. He is on the air because *you* wanted him on. You and the millions of other ARCHIE fans who snapped up ARCHIE COMICS magazines as soon as they appeared on the newsstands.

Yes! Now you can hear PEP's Bad Boy over the Blue Network of the National Broadcasting System—Monday through Friday. Consult your local newspapers for time of program, or call your radio station.

So, friends, if you want to keep laughing with Archie and his gang, tune in on your radio.

Sincerely,

Joe Higgins (the Shield)

USE THIS ENTIRE COUPON!!

JUST PRINT PLAINLY ON THIS COUPON, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AGE AND SEND IT TO ME WITH 10c TO COVER COST OF MAILING AND HANDLING.

Joe Higgins
Room 315
60 Hudson St.
New York City

Dear Joe:
Please enroll me as a member of the **SHIELD G-MAN CLUB.** I am enclosing this coupon together with Ten Cents to cover the costs of handling and mailing my Badge and Identification Card.

NAME .....

ADDRESS ..... AGE .....

CUT ON THIS LINE

EXACT COPY OF BADGE
IN THREE COLORS
RED—WHITE—BLUE

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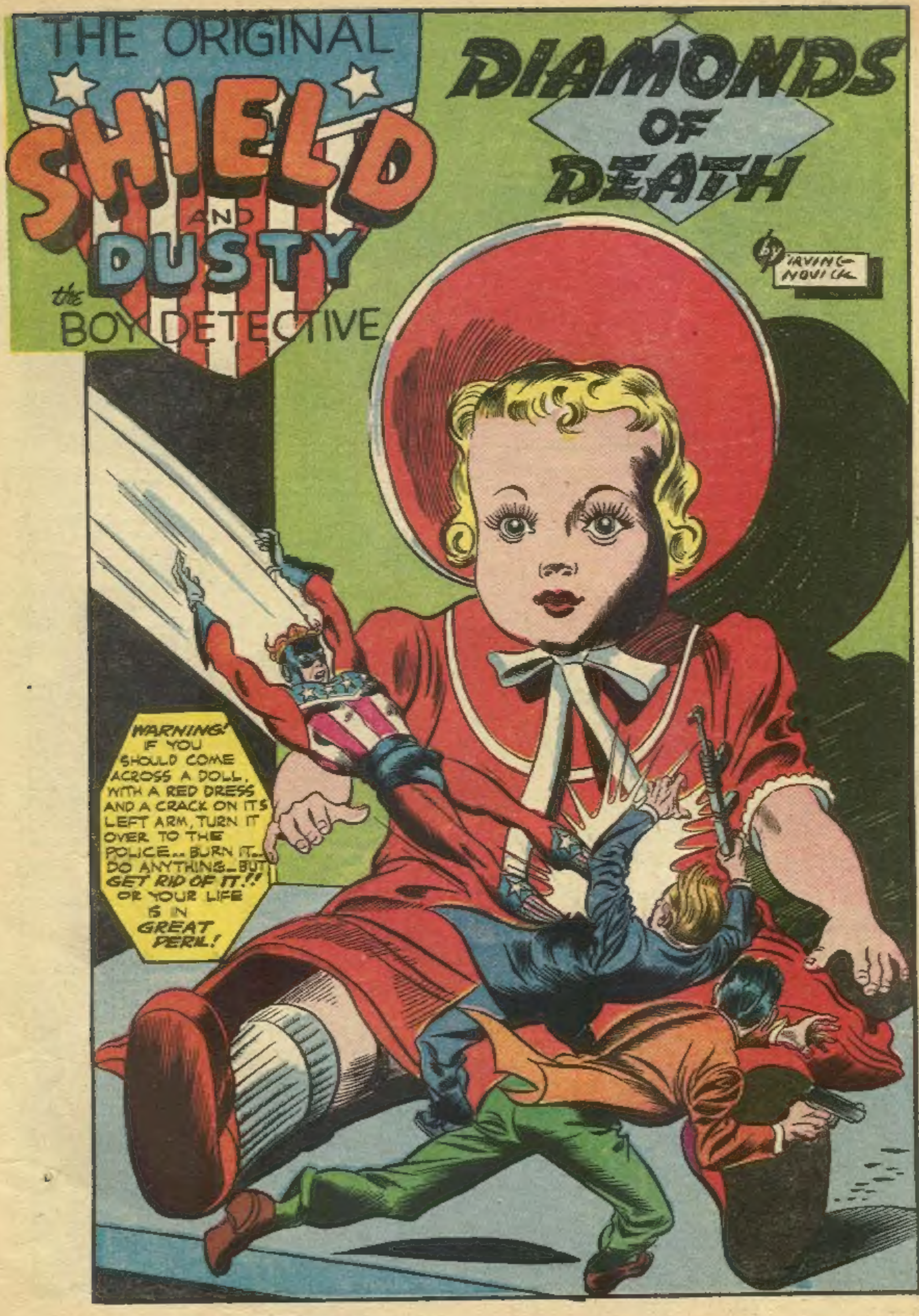

THE ORIGINAL
SHIELD
AND
DUSTY
the BOY DETECTIVE
DIAMONDS OF DEATH
by IRVING NOVICK
WARNING! IF YOU SHOULD COME ACROSS A DOLL, WITH A RED DRESS AND A CRACK ON ITS LEFT ARM, TURN IT OVER TO THE POLICE... BURN IT... DO ANYTHING—BUT GET RID OF IT!! OR YOUR LIFE IS IN GREAT PERIL!

DAILY PEP
EXTRA-MILLIONAIRE EZRA SHILLIG FOUND DEAD POLICE SUSPECT MURDER
ALTHOUGH THE POLICE HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE CORONER'S REPORT, THE FACT THAT SHILLIGS FAMOUS DIAMOND COLLECTION IS MISSING!--- LEAD THEM TO SUSPECT THAT ROBBERY WAS COMMITTED AND THAT
PLAYIN' HOUSE, FROGFACE!
DRAPE-SHAPE!
HEH, HEH, ALWAYS KIDDIN' AIN'TCHA DRAPE-SHAPE! DAT'S A DOLL I JUST BOUGHT FOR ME NIECE!
HOW TOUCHIN'!
CUT OUT THE STALLIN', FROGFACE! WE KNOW IT WUZ YOU WHO KNOCKED OFF THE SHILLIG JOB! SINCE WHEN ARE YOU WORKIN' ON YOUR OWN!
YA GOT ME ALL WRONG, DRAPE-SHAPE! I WOULDN'T CROSS THE MOB! HONEST I AIN'T GOT THOSE DIAMONDS!
I DON'T LIKE DAT TUNE YER SINGING, FROGGY! NOW, I'LL HAVE MAESTRO PLAY ONE O' HIS!
NO--NO DRAPE-SHAPE, YA GOT ME WRONG!
SIR, I OFFER YOU A MELODY WHICH WILL GO STRAIGHT TO YOUR HEART!
I SAID A LITTLE TUNE, NOT A SYMPHONY YOU LITTLE FOOL! YOU'VE KILLED HIM! NOW HOW WILL WE KNOW WHERE HE HID DOSE DIAMONDS!
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! MY INSTRUMENT MUST BE OFF PITCH!

NOW, WELL HAVE TO SEARCH THE JOINT! COME ON MAESTRO AND DON'T OVERLOOK ANYTHING -- WE'VE GOT TO FIND DAT ICE!
QUICK! HIDE DE BODY, MAESTRO! I'LL SEE WHO'S AT DE DOOR!
KNOCK
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
IS THIS WHERE MR. HOULIHAN LIVES?
YEAH -- TEMPORARILY! FROGGY'S CONSIDERIN' A CHANGE OF ADDRESS! WHAT DO YOU WANT?
FROGGY--ER--MR. HOULIHAN PURCHASED A DOLL FROM OUR STORE! OUR STOCK CLERK SUDDENLY REMEMBERED IT WAS FROM OUR DEFECTIVE STOCK!
OKAY, CAN DE CHATTER! HERE'S DE DOLL -- AND BEAT IT!
THANK YOU, SIR! OUR STORE PRIDES ITSELF ON HIS REPUTABILITY, YOU KNOW!
AH --- OUR STOCK CLERK WAS RIGHT! SEE HERE'S THE DAMAGE!
IF YOU CALL SOMETIME TOMORROW WE WILL GIVE YOU ANOTHER DOLL! GOOD DAY!
O.K. SO LONG, PAL!
I'M BAFFLED, DRAPE-SHAPE! I'VE GONE OVER THIS PLACE THOROUGHLY -- BUT NO DIAMONDS!
WHAT!

WHAT A SAP I AM --- DE DOLL! FROGGY WAS FOOLIN' WID IT WHEN WE WALKED IN ON HIM! DAT'S WHERE HE MUSTA HID IT! C'MON LET'S HOT FOOT TO DE STORE!
LATER AT THE DOLL SHOP----
DAT DOLL I GAVE YOU A WHILE AGO! I WANT IT BACK!
BUT I SHOWED YOU IT'S DEFECTIVE, SIR! I SENT IT BACK TO THE FACTORY! I'LL BE GLAD TO LET YOU HAVE A NEW ONE!
LATER AT THE DOLL FACTORY!
YEAH, BUT YOU SEE MY KID KEEPS CRYIN' FER DAT DOLL WID DE RED DRESS! I GOTTA HAVE IT!
WELL, THE ONLY THING FOR YOU TO DO IS GO TO THE FACTORY! THEY MAY STILL HAVE IT!
SORRY, MISTER! WE JUST SHIPPED OUT ALL OUR DEFECTIVE STOCK TO BE SOLD SECOND-HAND! THAT DOLL MIGHT BE ANYWHERE IN THE CITY!
IN THE INEXPLICABLE WAY OF GANGLAND'S GRAPEVINE THE NEWS FINDS ITS WAY TO A HOST OF EARS ---
HEY, DIDJA HEAR ABOUT DE DOLL WID DE ICE IN IT?
IZZAT SO!
AND SOON EVERY TOY SHOP IN THE CITY IS OVER-RUN BY A NEW TYPE OF TRADE --
I WANT ALL DE DOLLS WID RED DRESSES, Y'GOT! Y'SEE ME ME LITTLE GOIL IS CRAZY ABOUT DOLLS WID RED DRESSES!
THIS IS MOST UNUSUAL, BUT--
DERE'S A FORTUNE IN DAT DOLL--IF WE COULD LAY OUR MITTS ON IT!
WHAT'RE WE WAITIN' FOR?
YEAH, I KNOW BABE, BUT I PROMISED DRAPE-SHAPE I'D PICK UP A DOLL!
PICK UP ANOTHER DOLL, EH?

TAKE THAT, YOU TWO-TIMING WEASEL!
HEY, NIX BABY, Y'GOT ME ALL WRONG!
NEXT DAY AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS--
HIYA, CHIEF! ANYTHING NEW ON THAT SHILLIG ROBBERY?
YEAH, JOE! WE DRAGGED FROGFACE HOULIHAN OUT OF THE RIVER! HE'S THE GUY WE SUSPECTED OF PULLING THE JOB, YOU KNOW!
CHIEF! THERE'S SOME AWFUL QUEER STUFF GOIN' ON IN THIS TOWN! EVERY HOOLIGAN IS OUT BUYIN' DOLLS, AND--
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN THE SHOPPING ACTIVITIES OF THIS TOWN'S CROOKS! I WANT THOSE DIAMONDS AND FROG-FACE'S KILLERS!
YES, SIR!
WELL, IF THERE'S ANYTHING WE CAN DO CHIEF?
NO, JOE! THIS IS STRICTLY OUR JOB! WE'LL CLEAN THIS MESS UP!
FUNNY ABOUT THOSE CROOKS BUYING DOLLS THOUGH, EH, DUSTY!
YEAH! JOE! SUCH SENTIMENT, TSK-TSK!
I GIVE UP, MAESTRO! I'VE BOUGHT EVERY DOLL IN TOWN-- BUT NOT DE RIGHT ONE!
DSC
MAESTRO! DAT KID'S DOLL! IT'S GOT A RED DRESS!

LOOK, MAESTRO, IT'S DE DOLL ALL RIGHT DE ONE WIT DE SCAR!
SO IT IS, SIR, SO IT IS! WE'D LIKE TO HAVE YOUR DOLL-CHILD!
THIS IS MY DOLLIE - YOU CAN'T HAVE IT!
STOP SQUAWKIN' AND HAND OVER DAT DOLL!
NO! NO! IT'S MINE!
I THINK A LITTLE LULLABY MIGHT COAX HER!
SUDDENLY A FIST REACHES OUT AS IF FROM NOWHERE --
ZOWIE
PICK ON A LITTLE GIRL, WILL YA, YA DIRTY COWARDLY KILLER!
I'D LIKE TO PLAY THAT G**G!# BRAT ONE OF MY FUNERAL MARCHES!
NEVER MIND DAT! DE COPS ARE LIABLE TO COME A RUNNIN'!
DON'T BOTHER CHASING 'EM, DUSTY! WE COULDN'T CATCH THEM, ANYHOW!
BUT JOE, THAT WAS THE BIG SHOT GANGSTER, DRAPE-SHAPE AND MAESTRO!
AW, GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT! THEY'VE DISAPPEARED ALREADY!
DID THEY HURT YOU SWEET-HEART!
NO, MR. MANS! BUT THEY HURTED MY DOLLIE!

WELL, MAYBE I BETTER TAKE YOU HOME SO YOU CAN CALL A DOCTOR FOR YOUR DOLLIE!
OH, NO MR. MANG! I'M MY DOLLIE'S DOCTOR! I HAVE LOTS OF MEDICINE FOR MY DOLLIE!
IT'S A GOOD THING WE FOLLOWED 'EM! NOW WE KNOW WHERE DE KID LIVES!
LATER AT JOE'S APARTMENT---
THERE'S SOMETHING COOKING WITH THOSE DOLLS! IF I ONLY KNEW WHAT THOSE CROOKS ARE AFTER!
ZIP
GREAT GOBS OF FIRE! I SEE IT ALL NOW!
DAILY STAR
EXTRA-DIAMOND THIEF SUSPECT FOUND MURDERED
FROG FACE HOULIHAN HAS ACTIVITIES TRACED BY POLICE!
IT WAS LEARNED TONIGHT THAT HOULIHAN HAD PURCHASED A DOLL IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ROBBERY ALTHOUGH
HOULIHAN BOUGHT A DOLL RIGHT AFTER THE ROBBERY! THAT MEANS ONLY ONE THING!
YEAH! THAT HE HID THE DIAMONDS IN THE DOLL!
THAT EXPLAINS WHY DRAPE-SHAPE WANTED THAT LITTLE GIRL'S DOLL! AND UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, HE'LL GO AFTER IT AGAIN! LET'S GO DUSTY!
THE SHIELD'S HUNCH PROVES TOO TRUE, FOR AT THAT MOMENT----

JANE AWAKENS INSTINCTIVELY-
I KNOW YOU, YOU'RE THE BAD MEN WHO WANT TO TAKE MY DOLLIE AWAY! I'M GOING TO CALL MY MOMMA!
LET'S GRAB DE KID BEFORE SHE STARTS SQUAWKIN' AND WAKES UP THE WHOLE TOWN!
I DIDN'T FIGURE ON ANY SNATCHIN' BUT IT'S DE ONLY WAY!
THE CAR PULLS AWAY JUST AS THE SHIELD AND DUSTY ARRIVE!
DUSTY--THAT WAS DRAPE-SHAPE AND MAESTRO IN THAT CAR!
FOLLOW THAT CAR CABBIE--AND DON'T SPARE THE HORSES!
(GULP) YOU BETCHA, SHIELD! HOP ON!
TAXICAB
MAESTRO, THE SHIELD'S CATCHIN' UP WITH US!
THROW OUT THE BRAT! THAT'LL STOP HIM FOR A WHILE!
EEEEE
STOP THE CAR QUICKLY!
SCREECH
LET ME GO AFTER THOSE GUYS SHIELD, I CAN HANDLE THEM!
NO YOU CAN'T! DON'T WORRY WE'LL GET 'EM! RIGHT NOW WE'VE GOT TO GET THIS CHILD TO A HOSPITAL!
SOME NIGHTS LATER---
I GUESS DE HEAT'S OFF ENOUGH FER US TO BLOW TOWN, NOW, MAESTRO! STOP DAT ROTTEN MUSIC, YA DOPE! YOU'VE BEEN DRIVIN' ME CRAZY WID IT SINCE WE HOLED UP HERE!

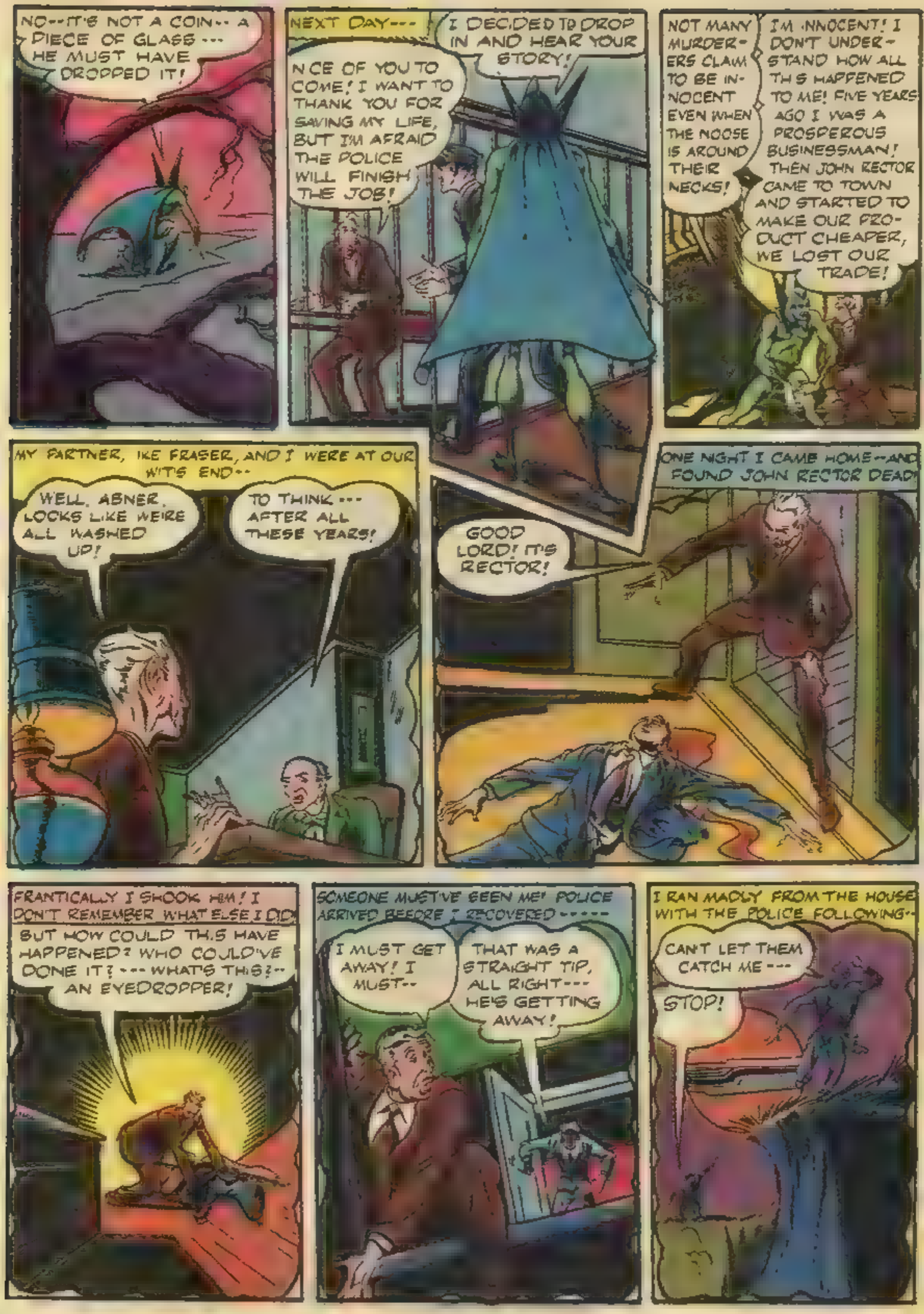
HERE'S SOME MUSIC THAT'S VERY SOOTHING TO THE NERVES!
YOU DOITY DOUBLE CROSSIN'.. UGH--
I NEVER INTENDED TO SPLIT WITH DRAPE-SHAPE! NOW BEFORE I LEAVE! I'LL SEE IF THERE'S ANYTHING ON THE RADIO ABOUT US!
AWWRRK-- SO JOIN THIS UNUSUAL CONTEST NOW!
IF YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A GOOD MUSICIAN, NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO PROVE IT! STATION W-P-E-P WELCOMES ALL CONTESTANTS!
A CONTEST FOR MUSICIANS! INTERESTING!
HIS EGOISM CARRIES MAESTRO TO THE MUSIC HALL--
I SHOULD GET OUT OF TOWN IN A HURRY-- BUT THIS CONTEST WOULDN'T TAKE LONG AND NO ONE WOULD EVER DREAM OF LOOKING FOR ME HERE!
---AND SO, MAESTRO SUCCUMBS TO THE TEMPTATION OF DISPLAYING HIS TALENTS---
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THE WINNER OF TONIGHTS CONTEST! WHAT DID YOU SAY YOUR NAME WAS, SIR?
ER--AH-- SMITH JOHN SMITH!
WRONG! IT'S SUCKER! JUST PLAIN SUCKER!
WHA-- SHIELD!
YEAH--AND YOU FELL FOR MY TRAP, HOOK LINE AND SINKER! I HAD A HUNCH THIS CONTEST WOULD SMOKE YOU OUT!
I HAVE OTHER USES FOR MY MUSIC-- SUCH AS THIS!

STOPPING ONLY TO PICK UP THE DOLL, MAESTRO DASHES FOR THE EXIT WITH THE SHIELD IN HOT PURSUIT--
IF I CAN GET TO THE ROOF--I'D BE SAFE IN THE FOG!
WOW! THIS FOG IS AS THICK AS SOUP! HE'S LIABLE TO GIVE ME THE SLIP AFTER ALL!
BUT AS THE ELUSIVE MAESTRO ATTEMPTS TO SLIP QUIETLY PAST THE SHIELD, HE ACCIDENTALLY BENDS THE DOLL, AND ---
MAMA!
THERE HE IS!
DISCOVERED-- HE MAKES A LAST BID FOR FREEDOM!
STOP, YOU FOOL
YOU'LL NEVER GET ME!
MAESTRO MAKES HIS LAST MISTAKE!
YEEEEEOOW!
--AND WHEN THE SHIELD DESCENDS--
DEAD!
AND THE IRONIC PART IS THAT THERE NEVER WERE ANY DIAMONDS IN THAT DOLL! THE POLICE DISCOVERED THAT SHILLIG HAD THEM IN A VAULT ALL ALONG!
THE NEXT DAY AT THE HOSPITAL ---
SAY JOE DIDN'T WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR THE YOUNG LADY!
BY GEORGE WE DID! NOW WHERE IS IT?
WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW! HERE IT IS!
A DOLLIE!

HANGMAN
KNIGHTS OF THE ROAD! IN THE DARK AND DEVIOUS BYWAYS OF THE NATION TRAVEL THOUSANDS OF HOMELESS WANDERERS--- BANISHED BY WHAT STRANGE CHOICE OF CIRCUMSTANCE! WHO WOULD THINK THAT AMONGST THESE FOOTLOOSE NOMADS GO MEN WHOSE SOULS REACH OUT ACROSS A CONTINENT--- DRAWN IRRESISTABLY TO THE WARMTH, THE FRIENDSHIP, THE PEOPLE THAT ARE HOME! OUR STORY BEGINS WITH ONE SUCH KNIGHT FORLORNLY GAZING THRU A WINDOW!

MY DAUGHTER, SON-IN-LAW AND GRAND-DAUGHTER! HOW I LONG TO BE WITH THEM, AGAIN!
FOR FIVE YEARS I'VE BEEN A FUGITIVE -- THOUGHT DEAD! AND THAT'S THE WAY IT'LL HAVE TO BE -- FOREVER!
THEY MUST NEVER KNOW I'M ALIVE!
HEY, TRYING TO ROB THE PLACE, EH? WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!
BURGLAR, EH! I'LL -- WH-- WHY IT'S MY FATHER-IN-LAW!
IRA--- DON'T--
IT'S ABNER THRISK!
THE MURDERER!
I TELL YOU I'M INNOCENT!
HE'S STILL ALIVE!
LYNCH HIM!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS --- IT'S ILLEGAL!
OUTTA OUR WAY IRA!
BOB DICKERING IS ATTRACTED BY THE NOISE--
A LYNCH MOB! IT'S IRONICAL, BUT THIS IS ONE HANGING THE HANGMAN'S GOING TO STOP!
ABNER THRISK, EH? HE PROBABLY HAS IT COMING TO HIM, BUT I STILL DON'T BELIEVE IN LYNCH JUSTICE!

GO AHEAD--BUT WITH MY LAST BREATH I STILL TELL YOU--I'M INNOCENT!
STRING HIM UP! HE KILLED A MAN IN COLD BLOOD AND RAN AWAY!
SUDDENLY--
WAIT! IF HE'S GUILTY THE LAW WILL PUNISH HIM!
IT'S THE HANGMAN!
I'LL TAKE CARE O' HIM!
WE GOT OUR RIGHTS!
I HATE TO DO THIS!
BUT IT'S FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!
HE'S RIGHT! THIS IS A JOB FOR THE POLICE!
THANKS, HANGMAN--
I'LL COME TO SEE--
WHAT?
HEY!
LOOKOUT! DUCK!
YOU MEDDLING FOOL!
YOU'RE TOO ENTHUSIASTIC, MISTER---
GONE! IT'S TOO DARK TO FOLLOW! WHAT'S THAT?---LOOKS LIKE A COIN!


NO--IT'S NOT A COIN-- A PIECE OF GLASS --- HE MUST HAVE DROPPED IT!
NEXT DAY---
I DECIDED TO DROP IN AND HEAR YOUR STORY!
NCE OF YOU TO COME! I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY LIFE, BUT I'M AFRAID THE POLICE WILL FINISH THE JOB!
NOT MANY MURDERERS CLAIM TO BE INNOCENT EVEN WHEN THE NOOSE IS AROUND THEIR NECKS!
I'M INNOCENT! I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW ALL THIS HAPPENED TO ME! FIVE YEARS AGO I WAS A PROSPEROUS BUSINESSMAN! THEN JOHN RECTOR CAME TO TOWN AND STARTED TO MAKE OUR PRODUCT CHEAPER, WE LOST OUR TRADE!
MY PARTNER, IKE FRASER, AND I WERE AT OUR WITS END--
WELL, ABNER, LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ALL WASHED UP!
TO THINK --- AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!
ONE NIGHT I CAME HOME--AND FOUND JOHN RECTOR DEAD!
GOOD LORD! IT'S RECTOR!
FRANTICALLY I SHOOK HIM! I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT ELSE I DID
BUT HOW COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED? WHO COULD'VE DONE IT? --- WHAT'S THIS?-- AN EYEDROPPER!
SOMEONE MUST'VE BEEN ME! POLICE ARRIVED BEFORE I RECOVERED -----
I MUST GET AWAY! I MUST--
THAT WAS A STRAIGHT TIP, ALL RIGHT--- HE'S GETTING AWAY!
I RAN MADLY FROM THE HOUSE WITH THE POLICE FOLLOWING--
CAN'T LET THEM CATCH ME ---
STOP!

I COULDN'T THINK--JUST ACTED
HE'S GOING OVER THE CLIFF! HE'LL BE KILLED!
I LANDED IN A CLUMP OF TREES. I LAY THERE DAZED--THE POLICE SEARCHED AND THEN GAVE UP!
MUSTA LANDED IN RIVER BELOW!
YEAH--HE'S A GONER FOR SURE!
THAT NIGHT I CREPT AROUND TO IKE FRASER'S HOUSE AND TAPPED AT HIS WINDOW TILL HE LOOKED OUT!
WHO'S THERE! WHAT DO YOU WANT!
IT'S ME ABNER!
HE GAVE ME SOME MONEY AND PROMISED TO SEND ME MORE------
I KNOW I WAS A FOOL TO RUN AWAY, BUT I DIDN'T THINK!
YOU SAID YOU PICKED UP AN EYEDROPPER FROM THE BODY!
YES! HERE! I'VE CARRIED IT WITH ME EVER SINCE!
EVERYBODY THINKS YOU'RE DEAD! THE BEST THING TO DO IS LIE LOW TILL WE GET SOME EVIDENCE TO CLEAR YOU!
THERE'S BEEN A LOT OF GLASS FLYING AROUND! HMM--MAYBE A CHEMICAL ANALYSIS WILL REVEAL SOMETHING!
IKE'S BEEN HERE AND PROMISED TO GET ME A LAWYER! AND WITH YOU ON MY SIDE, TOO, I BEGIN TO FEEL SOME HOPE!
I BELIEVE YOU'RE INNOCENT, BUT THERE'S A LONG WAY TO GO BEFOR WE PROVE IT!
THINK I'LL TALK IT OVER WITH IKE FRASER BEFORE I GO HOME! NICE HOUSE HE'S GOT HERE!

WHO IS IT? HANGMAN? WON'T YOU COME IN?
SORRY TO DISTURB YOU! I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE A FRIEND OF ABNER THRISK!
FUNNY LIGHTING ARRANGEMENT HE'S GOT!
YES I NEVER BELIEVED HIM GUILTY AND I'D LIKE TO HELP HIM!
ABNER TELLS ME YOU'RE GETTING A LAWYER TO DEFEND HIM!
I'M GOING TO DISCUSS IT WITH MY ATTORNEY, SAM STENGEL, THE FAMOUS LAWYER!
I'VE HEARD OF HIM--PRETTY SHADY REPUTATION! BUT HE'LL GET ABNER OFF IF ANYONE CAN!
HASTENING TO HIS PRIVATE LABORATORY, HANGMAN BEGINS A SLEEPLESS NIGHT---
FIRST THING IS TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS EYEDROPPER WAS USED FOR AND THIS OTHER PIECE OF GLASS! I'LL START HERE---
LATER---
THIS GLASS IS A CONTACT LENS USED BY SOME ONE WITH EXTREMELY BAD EYESIGHT! BUT THE TRACE OF CHEMICAL IN THE EYEDROPPER IS A LITTLE MORE PUZZLING! THINK I'LL CHECK WITH AN EXPERT!
HELLO! KEN--THIS IS BOB--- LOOK, I'VE ANALYZED A CHEMICAL AND I MUST KNOW WHAT IT'S USED FOR--HERE'S THE FORMULA!
A CONTACT LENS--WORN INSIDE THE EYE--OFTEN USED BY PEOPLE WITH VERY POOR VISION--IF THAT CHEMICAL IS WHAT I THINK IT IS--- TIME TO CALL KEN BACK!
---YOU'RE SURE NOW-DROPS USED IN THE EYE TO CORRECT TWILIGHT BLINDNESS! THAT'S SWELL, THANKS A MILLION!

THAT'S THAT! I'LL GET THIS STUFF READY AND GRAB SOME SLEEP!
NEXT NIGHT---
IF MY GUESS IS RIGHT, IKE FRASER CAN'T SEE ANYTHING EXCEPT IN BRIGHT LIGHTS--- BUT IT DOESN'T PROVE ANYTHING!
THAT'S DONE--NOW HIS SPOT LIGHTS WILL LOOK LIKE TINY CANDLES!
WHO'S THERE?
WELL HERE GOES!
IT'S SAM STENGEL! I'M AHEAD OF TIME!
I THOUGHT I'D COME A LITTLE EARLY--- HAVE TO GO SOMEWHERE LATER!
THAT'S FINE SAM, COME RIGHT IN! WAIT, I'LL TURN ON THE LIGHTS--- HELLO--- WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THEM?
CAN'T SEE A THING--WELL, COME ALONG--I'LL PHONE THE ELECTRIC COMPANY!
YOU WANTED TO SEE ME ABOUT ABNER THRISK
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT--THERE'S ENOUGH LIGHT TO SEE BY EXCEPT FOR SOMEONE WITH TWILIGHT BLINDNESS!
SAM, I WANT YOU TO REPRESENT ABNER AT HIS TRIAL! BUT AT ALL COSTS YOU'VE GOT TO PREVENT THE INVESTIGATION FROM BEING REOPENED!
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO DO THAT LOSE THE CASE FAST!
THAT'S RIGHT! IT WON'T BE THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE PULLED A CROOKED CASE FOR ME!
BUT IT'S THE LAST TIME YOU TRY--
HELLO IKE--- HEY WHAT'S THE HANGMAN DOING HERE!

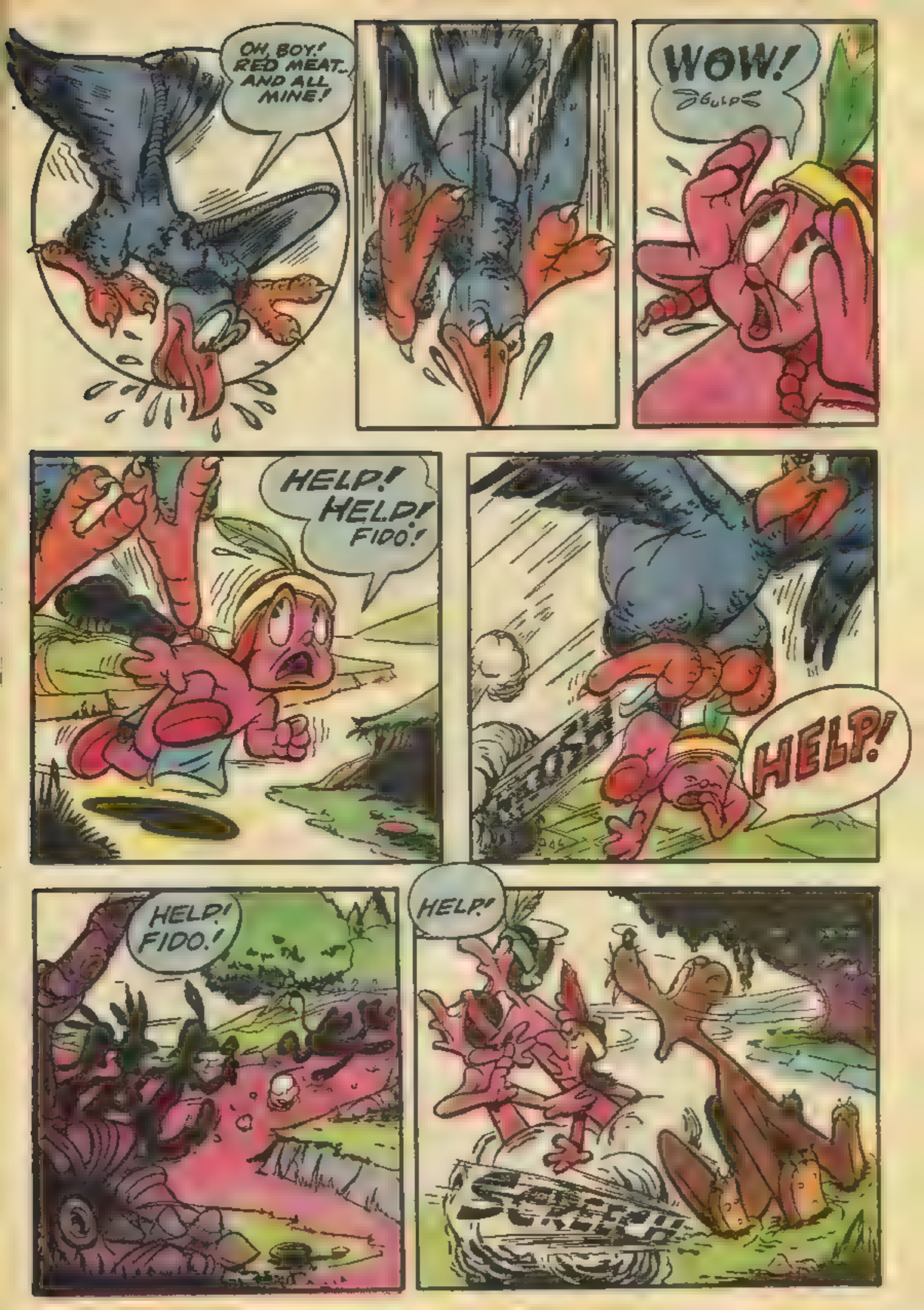
HANGMAN! WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN!
WE'RE TWO TO ONE -- SAM!
WE'RE BOTH THROUGH UNLESS WE FINISH HIM!
TAKE IT FROM ME -- YOU'RE BOTH THROUGH!
THERE -- THAT FINISHES HIM!
YEAH -- KILLING A FOUL BIRD WITH ONE STONE!
I CAN'T SEE -- I CAN'T SEE -- I MUST GET AWAY!
YOU FINISHED HIM, ALL RIGHT! IT'S YOUR TURN NEXT!
IF I CAN REACH MY ROOM --
HE KNOWS THIS HOUSE WELL ENOUGH TO GET AROUND IN THE DARK!
OUT! I'LL HAVE TO BREAK IT DOWN!
I CAN SEE YOU NOW! THIS IS YOUR FINISH, HANGMAN!
HANGING'S TOO GOOD FOR YOU! ABNER'S ALREADY SUFFERED FIVE YEARS FOR YOUR CRIME!

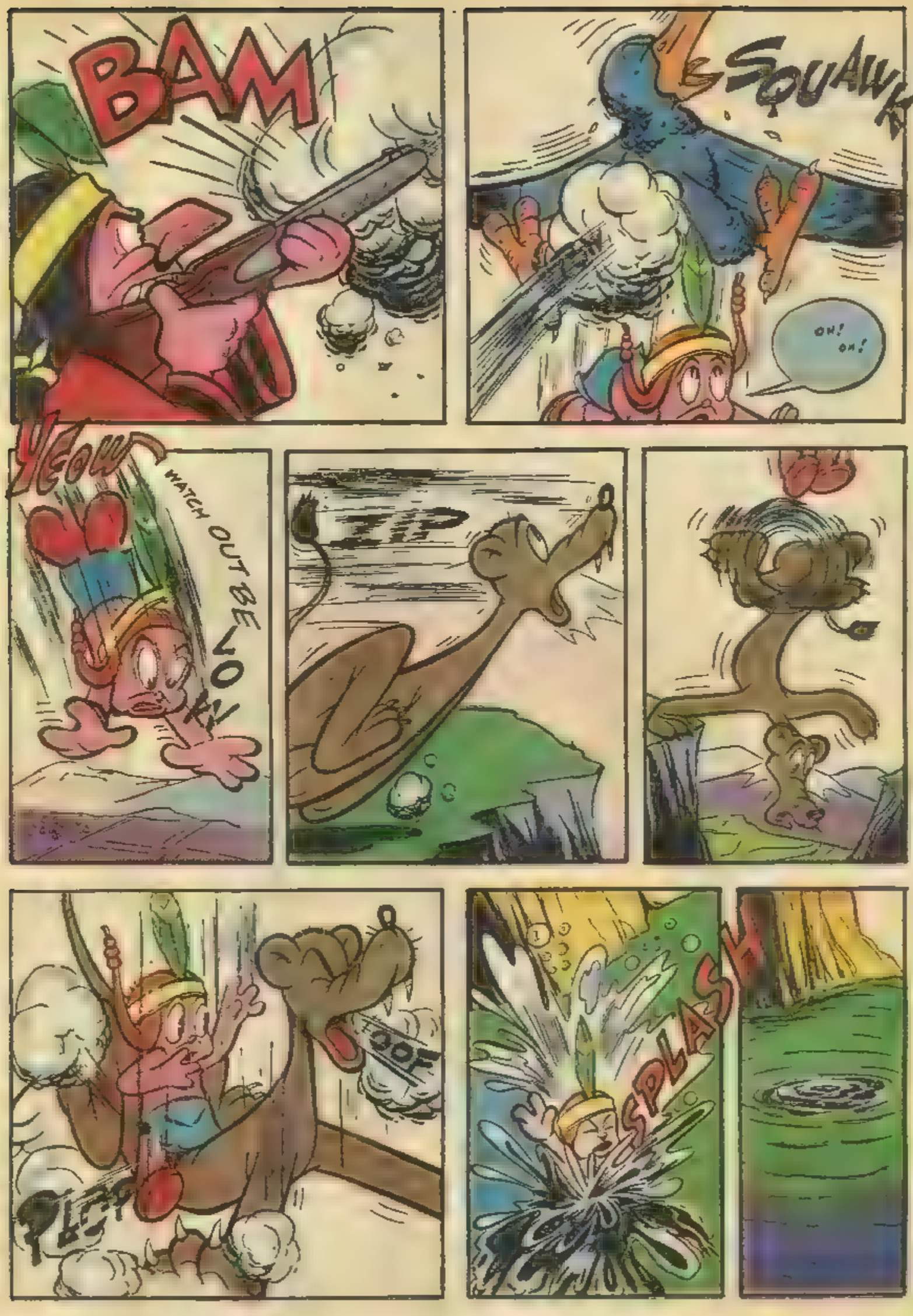
YOUR TWILIGHT BLINDNESS GAVE YOU AWAY---- IT'LL BE YOUR UNDOING, TOO!
THE LIGHTS GONE! BUT I KNOW MY WAY HERE!
I'M USED TO THIS HOUSE-- I DON'T NEED LIGHTS!
COME BACK YOU FOOL YOU'LL FALL OFF THE BALCONEY!
AARWK! I'M FALLING!
I MUST GET TO HIM BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
HOPE HE'S STILL ALVE!
I-I'M THROUGH--I'LL CONFESS-- I KILLED JOHN RECTOR IN ABNERS HOUSE HOPING HE'D BE ACCUSED-- I DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO RUN AWAY AND PROVE HIS GUILT-- MADE A FORTUNE -- GOT RID OF COMPETITOR AND PARTNER AT ONE BLOW!
I TRED TO KILL YOU, WHEN YOU STOPPED THE LYNCHING-- BUT I'M HELPLESS IN THE DARK--USE LENSES AND DROPS BUT THEY DON'T HELP MUCH-- TELL ABNER I'M SORRY- AAAAAH---
SOME DAYS LATER--
I'M ALMOST GRATEFUL TO IKE-- IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR HIM I'D NEVER KNOW HOW WONDERFUL IT IS TO BE AN HONEST MAN AGAIN!
LOOK, MOTHER THERE'S SOME-ONE AT THE WIN-DOW!
OH-OH I'VE BEEN NO-TICED --- BETTER GET AWAY BEFORE SOME-ONE TRIES TO LYNCH ME!
THE END

Lil Chief Bugaboo
by HIGGINS & WORK
REMEMBER FIDO, YOU MUST BE CAREFUL, AND NOT ACT LIKE A MOUNTAIN LION ANYMORE!
C'MON FIDO, LET'S TAKE A NAP! YOU WON'T GET INTO TROUBLE THAT WAY!
ZZZZZ
ZZZZZZ

SHH-! ME FIND OUT IF HIM DOG, OR MOUNTAIN LION!... SHH-! THEM SLEEP NOW!!
ZZZZ
?

HIM NOT DOG, HIM MOUNTAIN LION. HIM PHONEY!
RUN, F DO, RUN, THEY'RE AFTER YOU!
SMACK
HERE WE GO AGAIN!
IF THERE WAS ONLY SOME WAY THE TRIBE COULD LIKE F.DO!


OH, BOY! RED MEAT... AND ALL MINE!
WOW! GULP
HELP! HELP! FIDO!
HELP!
HELP! FIDO!
HELP!
SCREECH


BAM
SQUAWK
OH! OH!
YEOW
WATCH OUT BE YOU!
ZIP
OOF
SPLASH

PHEW
OH, BOY! LOOK AT THE RECEPTION!
HURRAY FOR FIDO!
HURRAY! OUR HERO!
HURRAH!
YEAH!
GEE, FIDO, YOU SAVED MY LIFE! YOU'RE A HERO NOW! THEY LIKE YA!
SPEAK, FIDO! SAY HELLO TO THE FOLKS! C'MON, DON'T BE BASHFUL!
ROAR

DEATH FOR DESSERT

THE big fellow pulled the visor of his fuzzy cap low as he opened the door of the diner and sat on a stool at the counter. He wore an expression that reminded Ted of the onions he put in hamburgers and looked as tough as some of the slabs of meat Ted had to serve as steaks.

"What'll you have, sir?" asked Ted.

"Cup of coffee," said Fuzzy Cap.

While Ted was getting the java, a man a few stools from the tough-looking guy finished his sandwich and coffee, threw some change on the counter, said, "See you later, Ted," and went out. This left Ted and the tough-looking guy alone. It was after midnight and the trade came in dribbles.

"Anything else, sir?" asked Ted, setting the coffee on the counter.

"Yeah," said Fuzzy Cap, pulling an ugly-looking forty-five from his pocket and pointing it at the young fellow who ran the Tasty-Snack Diner during the night. "I came to this town to wipe out a cop and I don't want any interference—or I *might* have to kill two guys before I leave."

The first *sight* of the miniature *cannon* rattled Ted's nerves a little, but he was getting his composure back again. He asked: "Who—*what* cop are you going—?"

"Look, fella," said Fuzzy Cap, "Officer Malone drops in here during the night to get a bite. I happen to know that. Well, I'm going to arrange it so Officer Malone goes out on a stretcher tonight. The boys say Malone's been sticking his nose in other people's business and they asked me to do something about it."

Ted wished he could crack the man on the head with a skillet, but he knew such an attempt would be fatal.

"It's kinda wet out tonight," Fuzzy Cap went on. "It's drizzling, in case you haven't been out lately, so I thought it would be nice if I just hid in that pantry there and waited for Malone."

"Maybe Malone won't be in tonight," said Ted. "He doesn't always come in."

"You're lying, kid, but that won't help any. This is in Malone's beat and the only restaurant in *this* section open all night. He'll be in all right."

"Maybe he'll be too busy to come in tonight," said Ted.

"I don't know why I argue with you," sneered Fuzzy Cap, "but just for your own information, no cop is ever too busy for hot coffee and doughnuts."

"When Malone comes in, I'll just pull this trigger and it'll be all over. If you're a nice boy and don't try any funny business, I'll beat it out the back door and scram. If you turn out to be a bad boy during any part of this business, I'll just have to make it two before I scram."

"Yeah," breathed Ted. He

understood all right. He knew Fuzzy Cap would probably shoot him, too, so he couldn't identify the killer later, but he was thinking of Officer Malone as much as himself.

After all, it was Malone who was spending a lot of his spare time teaching Ted pointers that would help him get on the force.

A truck driver came in and Fuzzy Cap pulled the gun back under the folds of his coat. When the driver went out, the tough-looking guy walked back into the pantry, used as a storage room. It was dark there, and he stationed himself where he could look out, unseen.

"Remember, fella, no funny business. I can see everything you do from here. Just take care of your trade as you always do. If you try anything—well, this pistol can tear your face right off—remember that."

The minutes sped by. Sick at heart over the ghastly deal ahead for Malone—and probably himself—he went about his work.

He wiped off the counter, arranged the mustard jars, and then stood against the counter looking blankly through the windows into the dark. He looked at the clock. It was one-fifteen. Malone usually stopped in between two-thirty and three.

Several customers dribbled in, had a snack and went out. When he wasn't busy he wiped off the mustard jars and stood against the counter staring into the night. Several times, when there were no customers, he heard Fuzzy Cap stirring and saying something to let Ted know he was still there.

A taxi driver came in. Ted lifted a menu from the back of the counter.

"Don't need a menu," said the cabbie. "Just want a cup of coffee and a couple of sinkers." He ate and went into the night.

Ted glanced at the clock. It was five minutes to two.

A little later a printer finishing a late shift came in. Ted knew him. He handed him a menu. The printer looked at the menu and sat it back in the rack behind the mustard jar and the big sugar-shaker.

"I see you don't have any of that swell pudding I like," he said. "Well, just give me a glass of milk and a cheese sandwich."

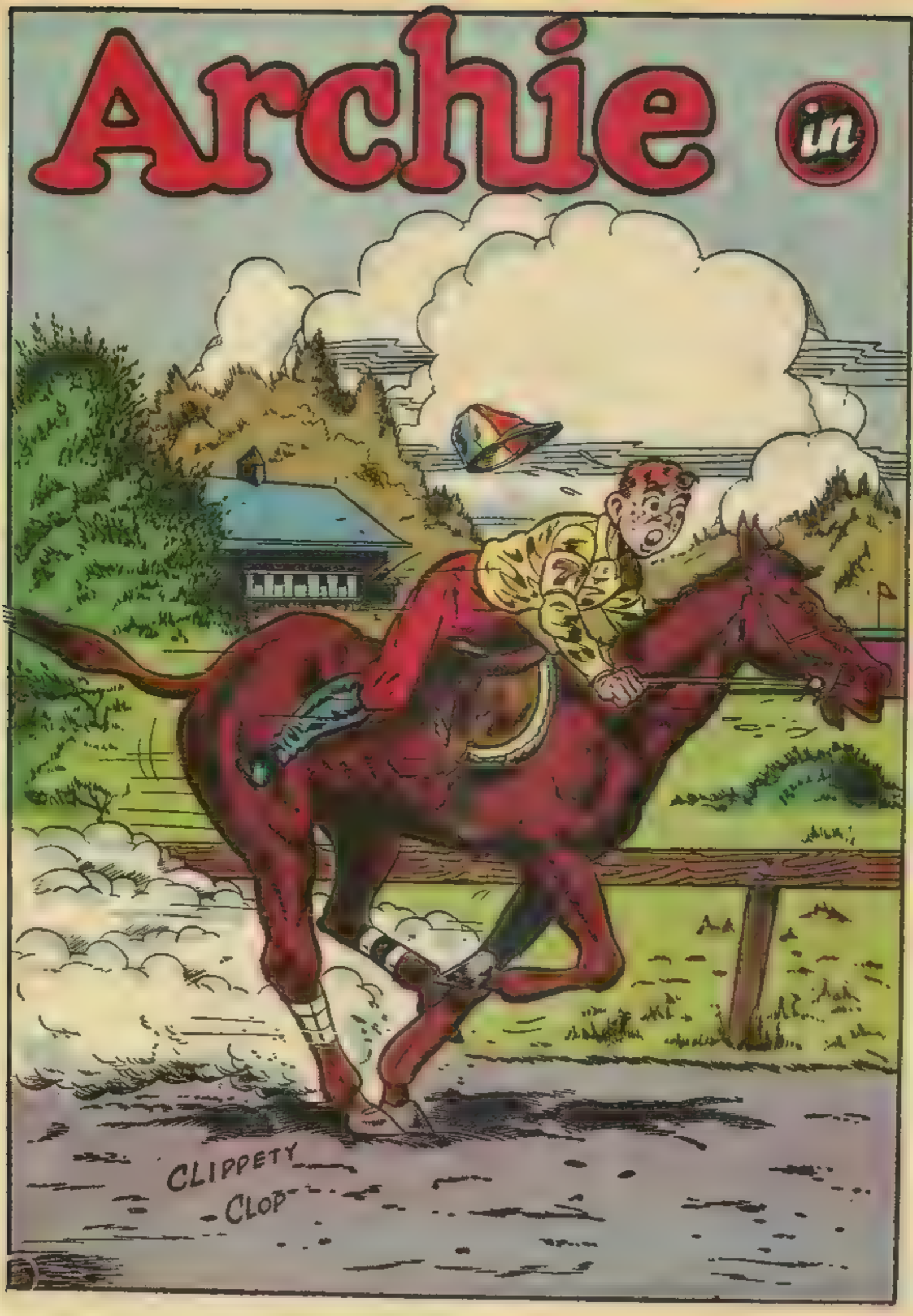
Ted wiped off the counter. He looked at the clock. It was two-twenty.

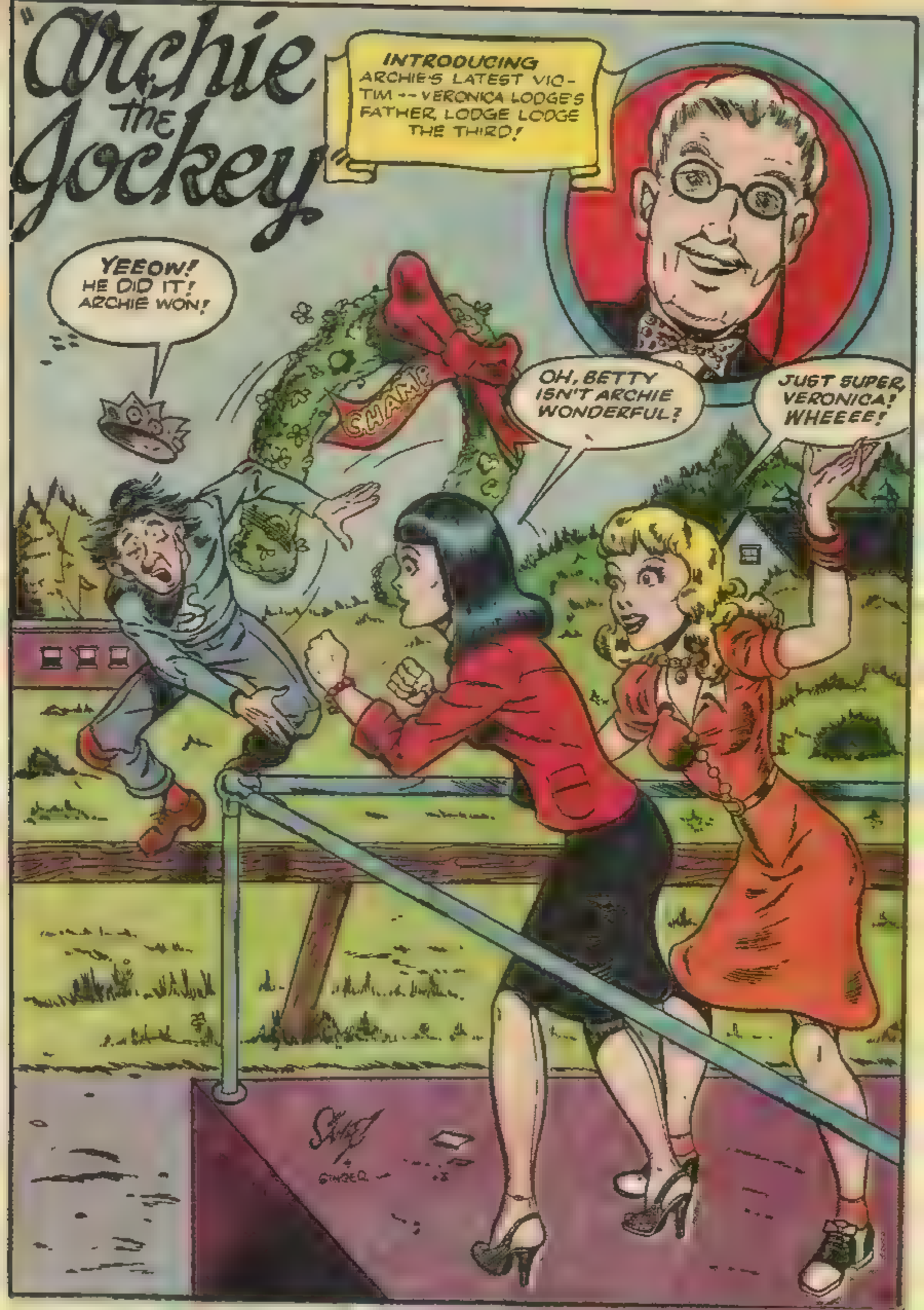
About ten minutes later Ted heard a siren screech and then the front door and the back door banged open together. Three cops jumped in the front door. One of them yelled, "Drop to the floor, Ted."

In the pantry, Fuzzy Cap turned to fire a shot at the cops at the back door, but he folded up in a fusillade of lead.

Cops were shaking Ted's hand and then he heard Malone at the wall phone talking with the chief. "Sure was a clever stunt, chief. He wrote a message in mustard with the tip of his finger. He had to stand with his back to the guy and do the writing easy-like upside down . . . The message? Yeah, here it is:

"'ACT NATURAL
KILLER IN
PANTRY
TELL COPS.'"


Archie in
CLIPPETY
CLOP


"Archie the Jockey"
INTRODUCING ARCHIE'S LATEST VICTIM -- VERONICA LODGE'S FATHER, LODGE LODGE THE THIRD!
YEEOW! HE DID IT! ARCHIE WON!
CHAMP
OH, BETTY ISN'T ARCHIE WONDERFUL?
JUST SUPER, VERONICA! WHEEEE!
GINGER

SAY! THAT LOOKS LIKE VERONICA RIDING THAT HORSE--- AND THAT'S REGGIE MANTLE WITH HER--THE STUFFED SHIRT!
DATE VERONICA WHEN MY BACK IS TURNED WILL HE! I'LL TELL THAT BIRD A THING OR TWO!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? GET THAT MECHANIZED ASHCAN OFF THE BRIDAL PATH WHOA BOY!
IF YOU HAD ANY BRAINS YOU'D KNOW BETTER THAN TO SURPRISE A HORSE LIKE THAT!
OH YEAH? LISTEN WISE GUY---I RODE REAL HORSES WHEN YOU WERE PLAYING WITH HOBBY HORSES!
IZZAT SO!-- SUPPOSE YOU HOP ON THIS NAG AND SHOW US HOW GOOD YOU ARE!
HUH!--- Y-- YOU MEAN RIGHT N--NOW?
O-BOY! NOW I DID IT! I COULDN'T EVEN STAY ON A MERRY-GO-ROUND HORSE! BOY--WILL I MAKE A SAP OF MYSELF IN FRONT OF VERONICA!
I--A-- CAN'T NOW, REG-G.E--GOT (GULP) AN ER-RAND TO DO, HEH, HEH! WELL, S'LONG FOLKS!
CLICK
HEY!
BLAM

WHOA BOY! STEADY, BOY!
NNNNYYAAAA
YEEOWW—HE'S RUNNING AWAY! I'LL HAVE TO LET HIM HAVE THE REINS!
ARCHIE, YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF SCARING REGGIE'S HORSE THAT WAY!
BUT GEE WHIZ VERONICA!
I DIDN'T DO IT ON PURPOSE!
AND BESIDES, A REAL HORSEMAN KEEPS A SPIRITED ANIMAL UNDER CONTROL AT ALL TIMES, I KNOW!
ARCHIE, DO YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU REALLY CAN RIDE?
RIDE?--WHY--UH-- SURE VERONICA! YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN ME ON A HORSE WHEN I WAS THIS HIGH! HEH! HEH!
R
THE NEXT DAY
HELLO MRS. ANDREWS, IS ARCHIE HOME!
WHY, YES VERONICA--- COME RIGHT IN!
ARCHIE, THERE'S SOMEONE TO SEE YOU!
OKAY, MOM! JUST A SECOND!

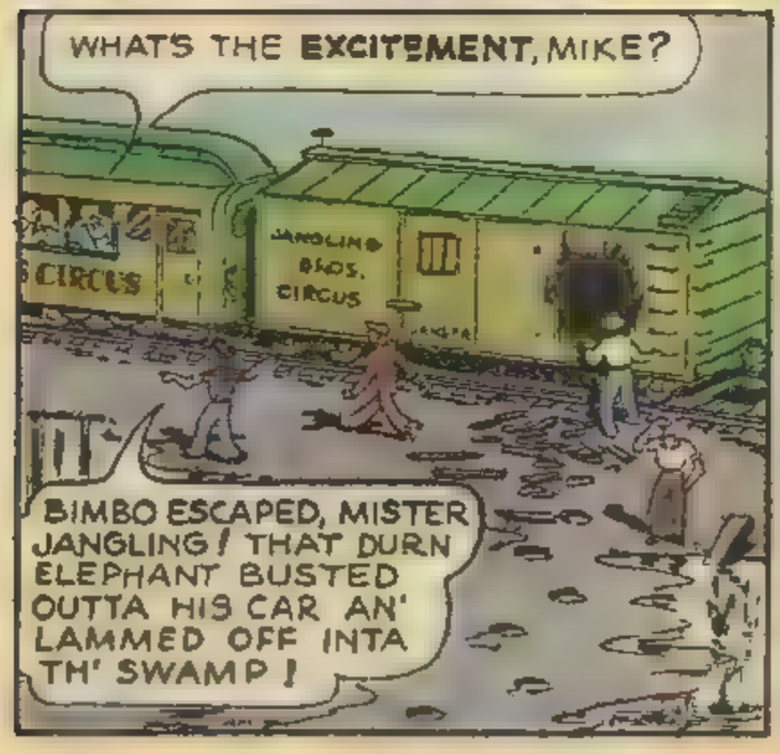
ARCHIE WAS TELLING ME HOW HE ADORES HORSE-BACK RIDING!
THAT'S NEWS TO ME, VERONICA!
THAT'S FUNNY! HE SAID EVEN AS A BABY HE WAS ON A HORSE--AND HAD PICTURES TO PROVE IT!
HMM--I THINK I KNOW WHAT PICTURES HE MEANT!
WHO IS IT, MOM! JUGHEAD!
NO, ARCHIE, IT'S ME! I CAME TO INVITE YOU TO MY FATHER'S COUNTRY PLACE FOR THE WEEK-END! HE HAS LOADS OF HORSES--MUCH MORE MATURE THAN THE ONES YOU RODE WHEN YOU WERE A BABY!
LATER--
ALL RIGHT--SO SHE INVITED YOU! WHAT DO YA WANT ME TO DO?
DON'T YOU GET IT! REGGIE'S GONNA BE THERE TOO!
AND I CAN'T LET THAT GUY SHOW ME UP! YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT HORSES! YOUR FATHER WAS A STREET CLEANER!
HMM--I SUPPOSE I COULD GIVE YOU A COUPLE OF QUICK LESSONS AT THAT!
AND SO THAT WEEKEND, AT THE LODGE ESTATE, ARCHIE AND JUGHEAD MAKE THEIR WAY TO THE STABLE IN THE SMALL HOURS OF THE MORNING----
OKAY, ARCH, THE FIRST THING TO DO IN LEARNING TO RIDE IS TO GET ON A HORSE!

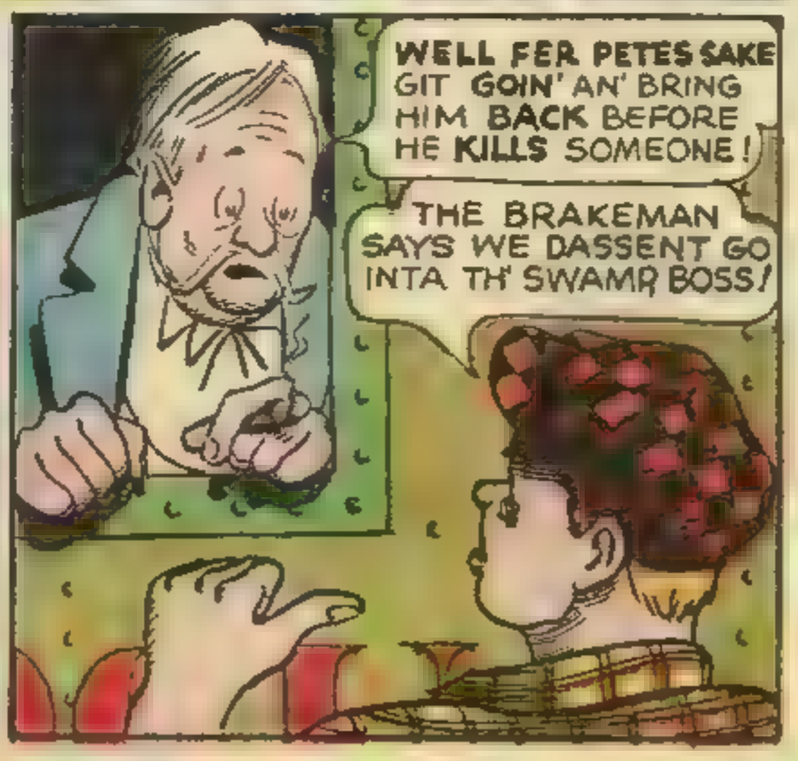
COULDN'T I BEGIN WITH THAT ONE?
OH, RELAX, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE!
NOW WATCH ME AND THEN YOU TRY!
GEE, JUGHEAD-- THAT'S SWELL! IT LOOKS EASY!
HEY! WHO'S THAT?
HE'S GOING TOO FAST-- BUT I THINK IT'S ARCHIE!
SAY! THAT LAD CAN RIDE!
WHOA!
HE'S NOT SO HOT!
ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME I DON'T KNOW A HORSEMAN WHEN I SEE ONE, YOUNG MAN!
NOW, REMEMBER! KEEP IN TIME WITH THE HORSE!
YOU MEAN I COUNT-- JUST LIKE IN DANCING!
ARCHIE! IT WAS YOU--- WHY YOU RIDE SUPERBLY!
HUH!

THAT WAS WHIRLADAY YOU WERE RIDING! DAD'S BEST RACE HORSE. BUT YOU HANDLED HIM BETTER THAN THE JOCKEY!
YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE DAD, ARCHIE, HE'S ALL EXCITED ABOUT THE BIG RACE!
HE WHAT!
OH MIGOSH! NO! NO! HE COULDN'T!
OHHHH! HE BROKE HIS LEG -- MY ONLY JOCKEY AND THE BIG RACE ONLY TWO DAYS AWAY!
ALL THE GOOD JOCKEYS ARE IN THE ARMY! IF ONLY---
BY GEORGE I'VE GOT IT!
ARCHIE, YOU'LL RIDE WHIRLADAY!
JUGHEAD -- HOW COULD YOU DO SUCH A THING TO ME -- YOU AND YOUR FANCY RIDING!
WELL, YOU ASKED ME TO HELP YOU DIDN'T YOU!
HELP ME! GOOD GOSH! DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT A JAM YOU'VE PUT ME IN! I'M A JOCKEY! JUGHEAD! A JOCKEY! WHY I'M LIABLE TO BE KILLED OR KILL THE HORSE! OR BE MURDERED BY MR. LODGE! OR WORST OF ALL VERONICA'LL NEVER TALK TO ME AGAIN! WHAT'LL I DO, JUGHEAD! YA GOTTA HELP ME!
WHAT HAPPENS IN THE NEXT PEP!

Catfish Joe

By Larry Harris

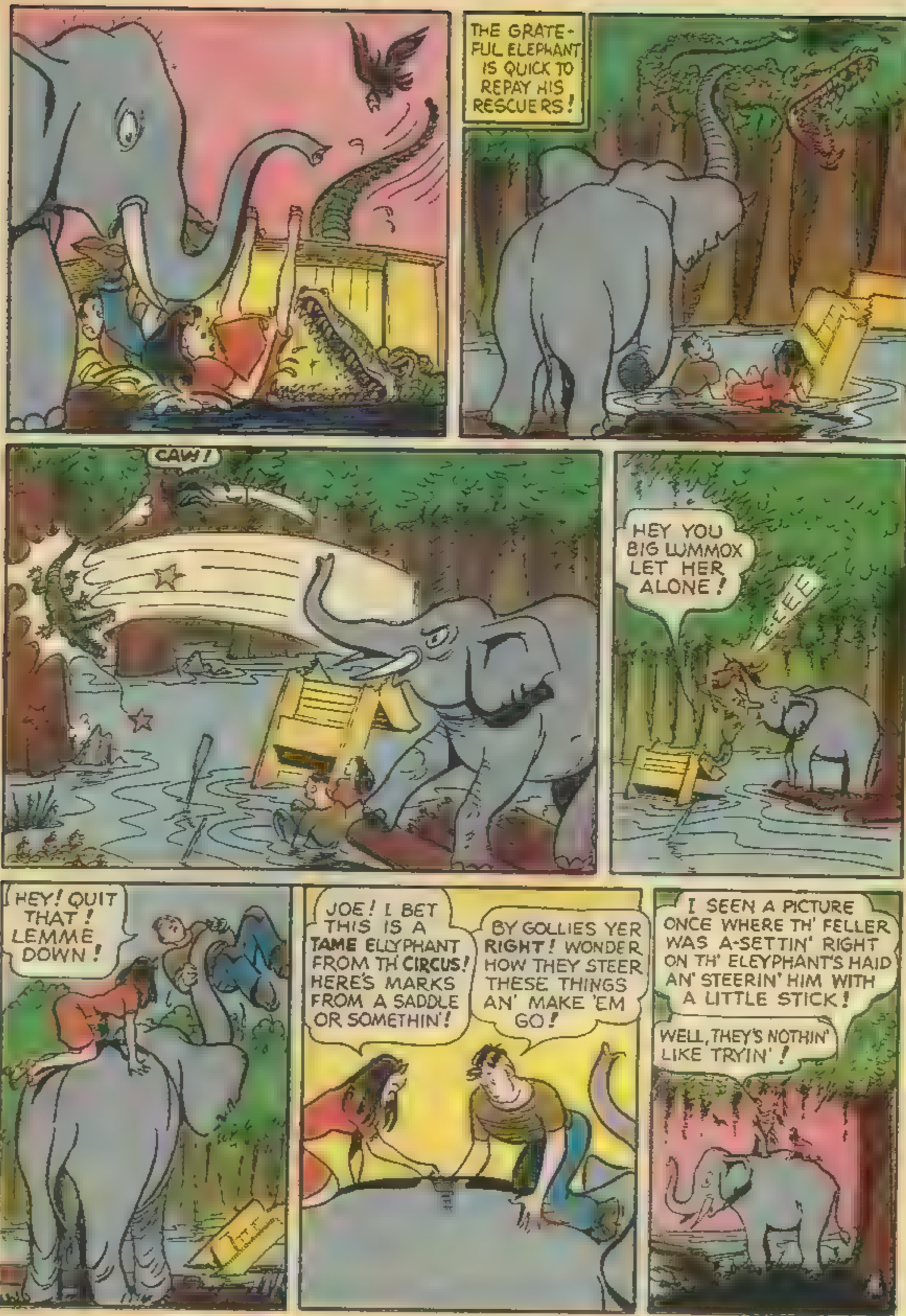

WHAT'S THE EXCITEMENT, MIKE?
CIRCUS
JANGLING BROS. CIRCUS
BIMBO ESCAPED, MISTER JANGLING! THAT DURN ELEPHANT BUSTED OUTTA HIS CAR AN' LAMMED OFF INTA TH' SWAMP!

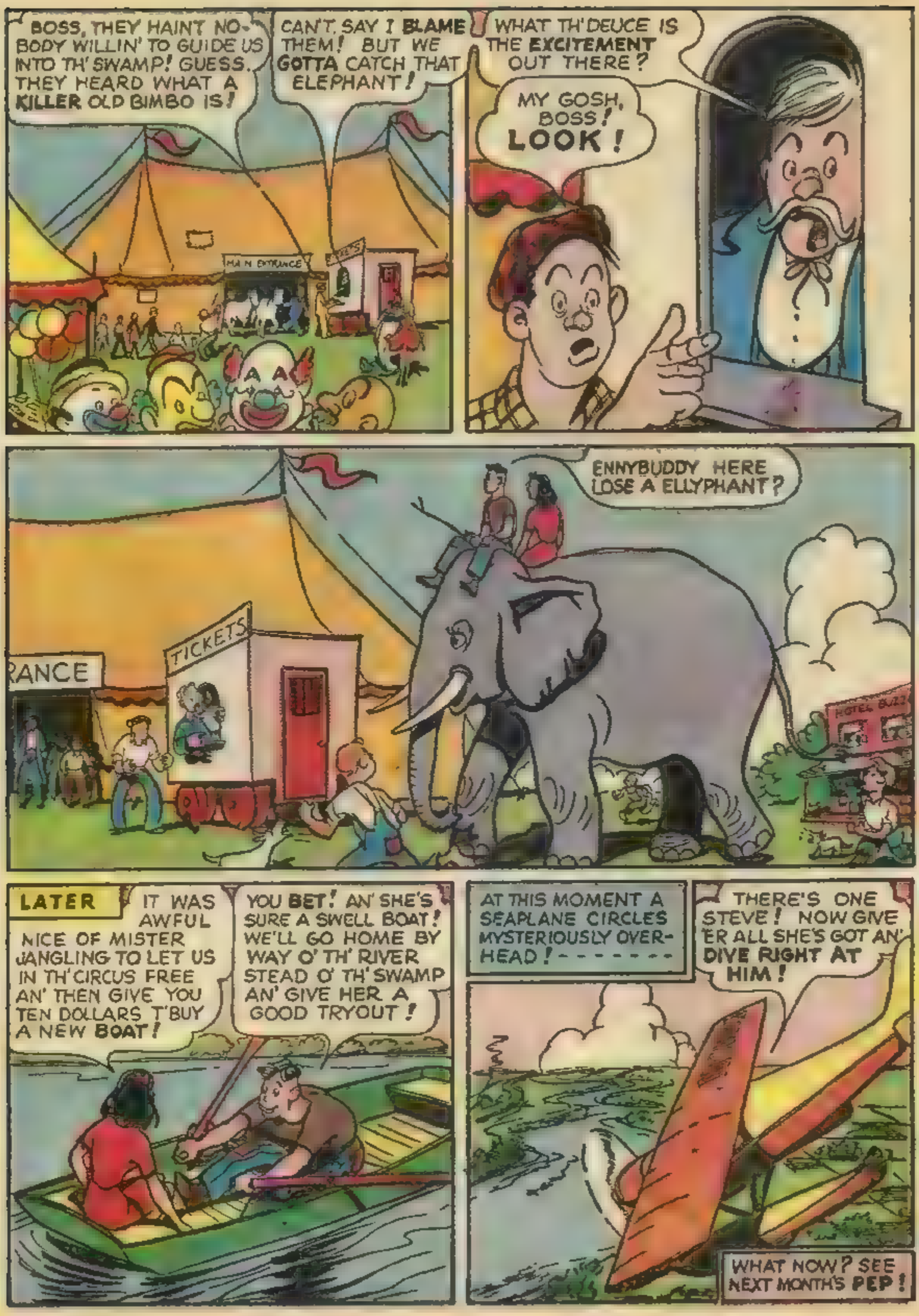


WHAT'S THAT?! WELL WHO IN TARNATION DOES HE THINK--
MISTER; THAT'S TH' GREAT SPOOKEEFENOOKEE SWAMP! AINT BUT HALF-A-DOZEN MEN IN TH' COUNTRY KIN GO IN THERE AN' FIND THEIR WAY OUT AGIN!
BUT WE GOTTA GIT THAT ELEPHANT! HE'S A KILLER!
WE'LL BE IN BUZZARDVILLE IN TEN MINUTES! THEY'S MEBBE SOMEBUDDY THERE KIN GUIDE YOU THROUGH TH' SWAMP!
GIMME A GOOD TRIMMIN', MAMMY! GONNA TAKE MY GAL MAYBELLE T' TH' CIRCUS!
THERE'S MAYBELLE A-COMIN' NOW!
HOWDY, MISSUS DILLY! -- JOE, YOU BETTER HURRY OR WE'LL BE LATE!
IT WON'T TAKE LONG T'GIT TO BUZZARDVILLE THROUGH TH' SPOOKEEFENOOKEE SHORTCUT!
HOWDY, MAYBELLE, HOW'S YER MA?
MY MAMMY SAYS THIS SWAMP HAINT A FIT PLACE FER HUMANS!
I BEEN THROUGH HERE LOTSA TIMES! DON'T RECKON THEY'S ENNYBUDDY KNOWS SPOOKEE-FENOOKEE ANY BETTER'N ME!
JOE, YOU RECKON THEY GOT A ELLYPHANT AT TH' CIRCUS?
ELLYPHANT! HA-HA! YOU DON'T B'LIEVE THEY REALLY IS SUCH CRITTERS DO YOU?
HI BINDER SAID HE SAW ONE IN A CIRCUS DOWN T'NORLEANS!
YOU KNOW WHAT A LIAR HE IS! IF THEY WAS SICH THINGS I'D A-SEEN SOME IN THIS SWAMP! RECKON THEY'S SOME OF EVERY KIND O' CRITTER IN HERE!

JOE, YOU DEAD SARTIN THEY HAINT NO ELLYPHANTS IN SPOOKEEFENOOKEE?
COURSE I'M SARTIN! WHY ME AN' TH' SWAMP CRITTERS IS PRAK-TICK-LY BROTHERS!
THEN YO BETTER GIT READY T' MEET SOME NEW KINFOLKS CAUSE THAT THING A-STANDIN' OVER YONDER SHORE HAINT NO LONG NOSED HORSE!
JUMPIN' BULLFROGS! IT IS A ELLYPHANT!
DON'T GIT ANY CLOSER JOE! HE LOOKS MEAN!
WE GOTTA GO THROUGH TH S BAYOU T'GIT TO BUZZARDVILLE! DON'T RECKON HE'LL DO US NO HARM!
HE'S A-WAV.N' HIS NOSE AROUND MIGHTY UNFRIENDLY LIKE!
LOOK OUT, JOE! HE'S A-COMIN' FER US!
DON'T LET H M GIT ME, JOE! DON'T LET HIM GIT ME!
HEY! LOOK OUT!
LOOK! HE'S GOT HIMSELF STUCK IN TH' MUD!

LISTEN TO HIM A-BELLERIN! LET'S GIT OUT OF HERE 'FORE HE GITS LOOSE AGIN!
NOTHIN' KIN GIT LOOSE FROM THIS SWAMP MUD! SEE-HE'S A-SINKIN' DEEPER AN' DEEPER!
WHAT YOU FIXIN' T' DO?
I'M A-GONNA GIT HIM OUTTA THAR! CAINT STAND T'SEE NO CRITTER GIT SUCKED UNDER TH' MUD! NOT EVEN A ELLYPHANT!
JOE DILLY! YOU LOSIN' YER SENSES? IF YO DID GIT HIM OUT HE'D JES' TURN RIGHT AROUND AN' KILL US!
WE'RE SAFE IN TH' BOAT! DON'T RECKON HE'D TRY COMIN' THROUGH THAT MUD AGIN'!
TAITERHEAD!
FIRST WE'LL SHOVE THIS LOG UNDER HIM T' KEEP HIM FROM SINKIN' DEEPER!
AN' NOW WE'LL SHOVE UP SOME OTHER LOGS SO HE KIN PULL HIS FEET OUT AN' GIT UP ON 'EM!
HE KNOWS WE'RE A-HELPIN' H,M!— HE KEEPS MAKIN LITTLE THANKFUL NOISES!
THERE! AN' NOW, MISTER ELLYPHANT, TH' REST IS UP TO YOU!
LOOK OUT, JOE! WE'RE RIGHT OVER A BIG GATOR!


THE GRATE-FUL ELEPHANT IS QUICK TO REPAY HIS RESCUERS!
CAW!
HEY YOU BIG LUMMOX LET HER ALONE!
EEEE
HEY! QUIT THAT! LEMME DOWN!
JOE! I BET THIS IS A TAME ELYPHANT FROM TH' CIRCUS! HERE'S MARKS FROM A SADDLE OR SOMETHIN'!
BY GOLLIES YER RIGHT! WONDER HOW THEY STEER THESE THINGS AN' MAKE 'EM GO!
I SEEN A PICTURE ONCE WHERE TH' FELLER WAS A-SETTIN' RIGHT ON TH' ELEYPHANT'S HAID AN' STEERIN' HIM WITH A LITTLE STICK!
WELL, THEY'S NOTHIN' LIKE TRYIN'!

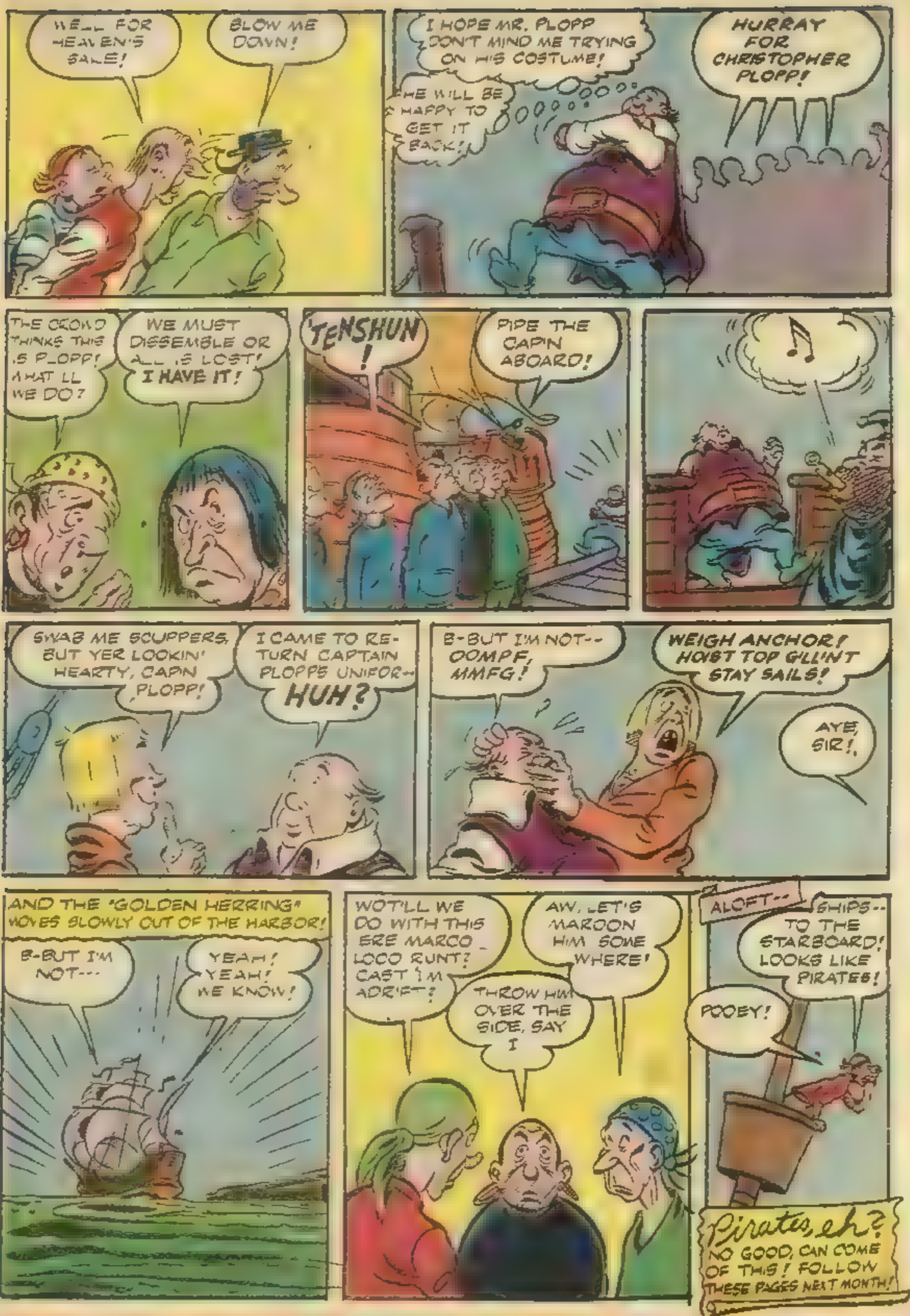

BOSS, THEY HAINT NOBODY WILLIN' TO GUIDE US INTO TH' SWAMP! GUESS. THEY HEARD WHAT A KILLER OLD BIMBO IS!
CAN'T SAY I BLAME THEM! BUT WE GOTTA CATCH THAT ELEPHANT!
MAIN ENTRANCE
TICKETS
WHAT TH' DEUCE IS THE EXCITEMENT OUT THERE?
MY GOSH, BOSS! LOOK!
ENNYBUDDY HERE LOSE A ELLYPHANT?
TICKETS
HOTEL BUZZ
LATER
IT WAS AWFUL NICE OF MISTER JANGLING TO LET US IN TH' CIRCUS FREE AN' THEN GIVE YOU TEN DOLLARS T'BUY A NEW BOAT!
YOU BET! AN' SHE'S SURE A SWELL BOAT! WE'LL GO HOME BY WAY O' TH' RIVER STEAD O' TH' SWAMP AN' GIVE HER A GOOD TRYOUT!
AT THIS MOMENT A SEAPLANE CIRCLES MYSTERIOUSLY OVERHEAD!
THERE'S ONE STEVE! NOW GIVE 'ER ALL SHE'S GOT AN' DIVE RIGHT AT HIM!
WHAT NOW? SEE NEXT MONTH'S PEP!

MARCO LOCO
Adventurer
Let us turn back the pages of time and live once again in the days of that dashing, swashbuckling hero-adventurer and explorer extraordinary....
MARCO LOCO!!
ye glorye & ye Drawings by ye Hubbello
... Our story opens many years ago in the busy seaport town of San Burro. Here, every day, come great stocks, laden with gold and furs from the East!
ONE DAY, WHILE EXCITEMENT REIGNS IN THE CITY STREETS--
HERE YARE FOLKS! GET YER NOISE-MAKERS AND CONFETTI, HERE!
I HEAR TELL, CHRISTOPHER PLOPP, THE GREAT EXPLORER IS IN TOWN!
WHAT MANNER OF STUFF IS COOKING, PEDRO?
AT THE ROYAL PALACE THEIR MAJESTIES ARE WELCOMING CHRISTOPHER PLOPP!
BY THE BY, I COULD USE A SLIGHT ADVANCE OF 10,000 PESOS!
YOU HEARD WHAT SIGNOR PLOPP SAID, KING! MAKE OUT A CHECK!
YES, DEAR!

AHHH, CORRECT! AND NOW I WILL BE OFF! SO LONG, QUEEN I'LL BE SEEING YOU!
OH, MUST YOU RUN AWAY SO SOON? RING FOR SIGNOR PLOPP'S HAT, KING!
YES DEAR!
FAREWELL, MY BRAVE ADVENTURER! (SNIFF!
GOODBYE!
IT'S CHRISTOPHER PLOPP! GEE!
POO! STUPID GAPING PEASANTS! HOW I HATE THEM ALL! I THINK I SHALL WEIGH ANCHOR AND GO AWAY. FAR AWAY!
GIVE ME YOUR AUTOGRAPH!
HO-HUM! HOW DULL!
QUIT YER PUSHIN!
PLOPP IS A HERO!!
THAT I AM!
PLOPP IS A HEEL!
THAT HE IS!
I HEAR YOUSE TALKING!
HOW MUCH LONGER ARE WE GONNA LET THAT PHONEY KICK US AROUND? THE BIG MEANY!
PLOPP IS A *G*!=G?!! ALSO A ?*G*!?#!
TRUE
WE DO ALL THE DISCOVERING AND HE GETS ALL THE GRAVY! ALL HE DOES IS HIDE UNDER HIS BUNK!
I DON'T MIND AN EVIL, DRUNKEN DOPE SMUGGLER OF A CAP'N! BUT I HATES A SEASICK ONE!
LET'S MUTINY!
WHAT?
MUTINY!
OH!
I GOT A PLAN!

IF IT CONCERNS RIDDING OURSELVES OF PLOPP, I SAY-- SPILL IT!
THEY'S A SLAVE SHIP MOORED ALONGSIDE US IN THE HARBOR! SHE'S SAILING THIS EVENING! WE MIGHT ARRANGE IT SO'S CAP'N PLOPP GOT ABOARD THE WRONG VESSEL BY MISTAKE!
HOT DOG!
SMELL!
LET'S GO DOWN TO THE BOAT RIGHT NOW!
WHILE PLOPP'S CREW LAY THEIR CUNNING PLANS LET US RETURN TO THE WICKED CAPTAIN PLOPP!
THE CREW HAS BEEN GRUMBLING LATELY! I THINK THIS VOYAGE I SHALL GIVE THEM ONLY HALF RATIONS OF BREAD AND WATER!
HEH HEH HEH!
SAY!
SPLOP
WHAT TH--
GLUG!
RICH
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY SOME FISH?
PAH! HOW DARE YOU BESLIME ME, YOU LOUT! WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?
I'M MARCO LOCO! WHAT'S YOUR HANDLE?
I AM CHRISTOPHER PLOPP!
C-C-CHRISTOPHER--
PLOP!

COZY INN
FOLLOW ME, YOU FAT PIG! BAH! I REEK OF YOUR FOUL F SH!
YESS R!
TAKE THIS SUIT TO THE CLEANER, FOOL, AND BE BACK WITHIN THE HOUR OR I SHALL SEPARATE YOU FROM YOUR EARS!
YES S R!
WHERE IS THAT **!@*!! HE'S BEEN GONE FOR HOURS!
I MUST GET TO MY SHIP!
BAH!
TWO MINUTES LATER--
HERE'S YOUR SAILOR SUIT, MR. PL---? HE'S GONE!
WHERE IS PLOPP? THE SLAVE SHIP WILL CAST OFF AT 6:31!
AY FREND, BY THE SUN IT'S ALREADY 6:29!
AVAST, YE SWABS! HERE COMES PLOPP NOW!
GOLDEN HERRING
CHRIS. PLOPP PROP.
DEP. 6:45
SLAVER
TO AFRICA
DEPART 6:31
ONE WAY ONLY
QUICK ROGER, GET THAT SIGN CHANGED!
THAT I WILL!
SLAVER
TO AFRICA
DEPART 6:31
ONE WAY ONLY
BOARD!
GANGWAY!
GOLDEN HERRING
CHRIS. PLOPP PROP.
DEP. 6:45 P.M.
HA HA HA HO HO HA HA HA
WELL, WHAT TH **G!?#!
HE HE HE


WELL FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE!
BLOW ME DOWN!
I HOPE MR. PLOPP DON'T MIND ME TRYING ON HIS COSTUME!
HE WILL BE HAPPY TO GET IT BACK!
HURRAY FOR CHRISTOPHER PLOPP!
THE CROWD THINKS THIS IS PLOPP! WHAT'LL WE DO?
WE MUST DISSEMBLE OR ALL IS LOST! I HAVE IT!
'TENSHUN!
PIPE THE CAPN ABOARD!
SWAB ME SCUPPERS, BUT YER LOOKIN' HEARTY, CAPN PLOPP!
I CAME TO RETURN CAPTAIN PLOPP'S UNIFOR--
HUH?
B-BUT I'M NOT-- OOMPF, MMFG!
WEIGH ANCHOR! HOIST TOP G'LL'NT STAY SAILS!
AYE, SIR!
AND THE "GOLDEN HERRING" MOVES SLOWLY OUT OF THE HARBOR!
B-BUT I'M NOT---
YEAH! YEAH! WE KNOW!
WOT'LL WE DO WITH THIS ERE MARCO LOCO RUNT? CAST 'IM ADR'FT?
AW, LET'S MAROON HIM SOME WHERE!
THROW HIM OVER THE SIDE, SAY I
ALOFT--
SHIPS-- TO THE STARBOARD! LOOKS LIKE PIRATES!
POOEY!
Pirates, eh? NO GOOD, CAN COME OF THIS! FOLLOW THESE PAGES NEXT MONTH!

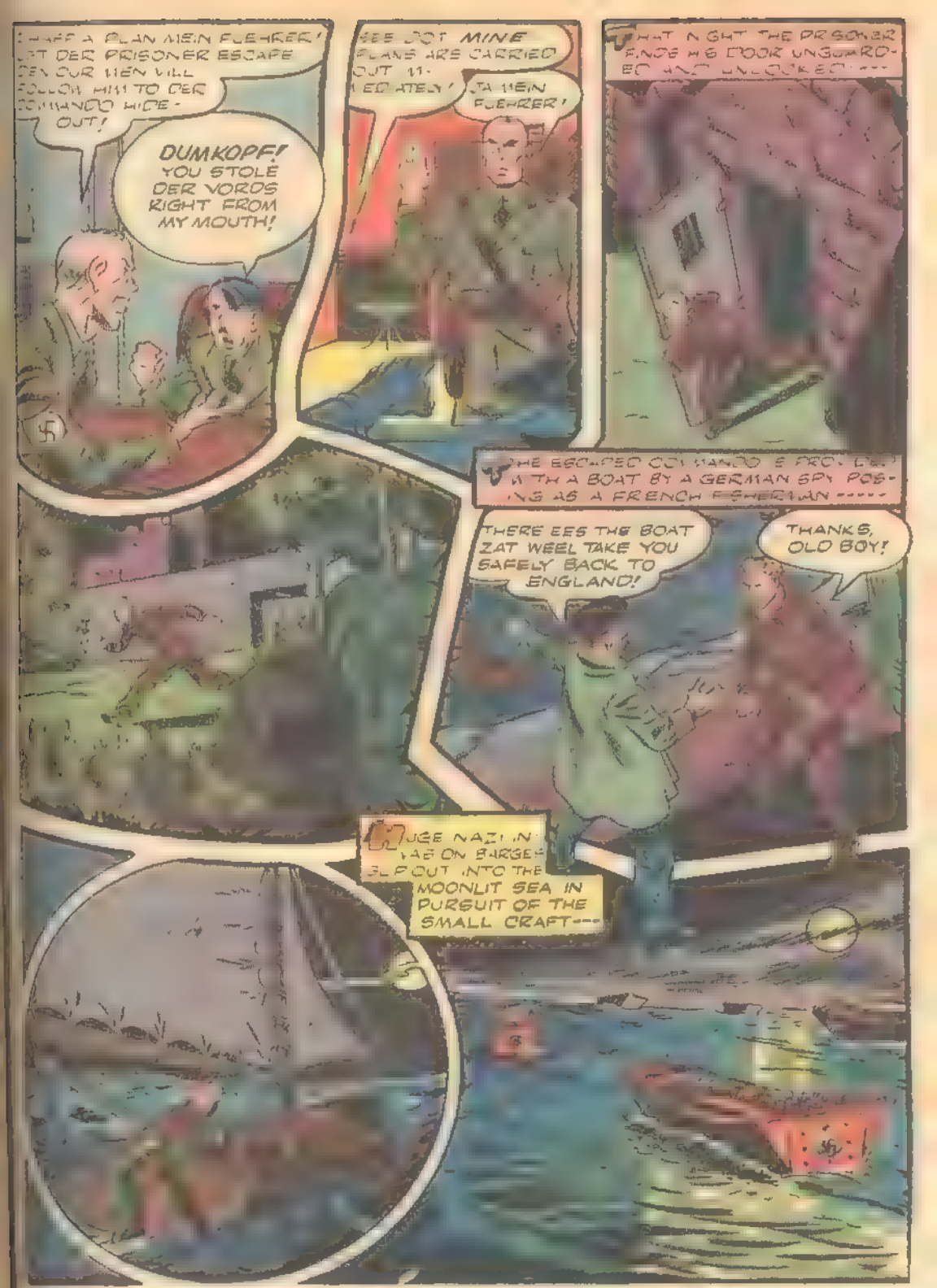
WOW! THE TROUBLE THAT KID ARCHIE GETS INTO IN THIS LATEST ARCHIE COMICS!
Archie

CAPTAIN COMMANDO and the BOY SOLDIERS
UNITED NATION'S JURY
YOU ADOLF HITLER ARE ON TRIAL FOR YOUR LIFE! ON TRIAL BEFORE THE VERY PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED SO TERRIBLY AT YOUR HANDS! YOURS IS HUMANITY'S GREATEST CRIME! THE CRIME OF ATTEMPTING TO ROB THE FREE PEOPLES OF THIS EARTH OF THOSE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF FREE GOVERNMENT! GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE! BY THE PEOPLE! AND FOR THE PEOPLE!

YOUR DAY OF RECKONING HAS COME, ADOLF HITLER! THE LIBERATED PEOPLES OF THIS EARTH ARE NOW YOUR JUDGE AND JURY!
I PROSECUTED AGAINST SLAVERY DURING MY LIFE TIME ON THIS EARTH! SO IT IS ONLY FITTING AND RIGHT THAT I PROSECUTE THE MOST MONSTROUS SLAVE MASTER OF THEM ALL -- NOT EVEN THE GRAVE COULD KEEP THAT FROM ME!
BAILIFF, PLEASE BRING IN THE WITNESS!
YES SIR MR. LINCOLN!
NEN! NEN! IT COULDN'T BE POSSIBLE! CAPTAIN COMMANDO!
YOU BET! WE'VE MET A FEW TIMES, IN THE PAST, HAVEN'T WE, ADOLF... INDIRECTLY OF COURSE!
GIVEN YOU PLENTY OF TROUBLE IN THE PAST ADOLF! BUT NOTHING LIKE THE TROUBLE WE'RE GOING TO HAND YOU NOW! WE'VE WON THE FINAL BATTLE AT LAST!
TROUBLE
WON

NO! NO!
VASS IST? MEIN FEUHRER!
HERE ARE DEY HERMAN! DER COMMANDOS DEY VANT TO KILL ME!
BUT MEIN FEUHRER, DERE IS NO VUN HERE! YOU MUST HAFF BEEN DREAMING!
HMM-- JA NIGHTMARES-- DOSE VERDAMMTE--COMMANDOS HAFF BEEN NIGHTMARES TO ME SINCE DEY VERE ORGANIZED!-- HERMAN, SUMMON MY CHENERAL STAFF AT VUNCE!
GENTLEMEN DERE IS ONLY VUN SOLUTION--VE MUST CAPTURE KAPITAN COMMANDO AT ANY COST!
BUT HOW, MEIN FUEHRER? HE IS AS HARD TO GET AT AS DER DEVIL HIMSELF!
BUT HE NEFFER SEEMS TO HAFF MUCH TROUBLE GETTING AT US! DER SUPERRACE! DUMKOPFS! I TELL YOU HE MUST BE CAPTURED I DON'T CARE HOW!

IF NESESSARY VE VILL STAGE A COMMANDO RAID OF OUR OWN UND---
VEN FUEHRER! DOT SS A BRILLIANT IDEA! VY SHOULDN'T VE CHERMANS STAGE A COMMANDO RAID OF OUR OWN?
SHORT WHILE LATER---
DIS IS DER COMMANDO PRISONER VE TOOK IN DER LAST RAID, HERR KAPITAN!
HA--YOU HAFF A SENSE OF HUMOR, I SEE! GOOT YOU VILL NEED IT!
TALK! VER-DAMMITE SCHWEIN TALK!
YOU VERE IUN OFF CAPTAIN COMMANDO'S MEN! YOU VILL TELL ME DER LOCATION OF HIS PRESENT BASE!
SURE, YOU GO STRAIGHT UP, UNTIL YOU HIT THE VALLEY OF THE MOON! THEN--
AFTER HOURS OF HORRIBLE LASHING AND AGONIZING TORTURES----
BAH--HE HAS TAKEN THE PUNISHMENT OF TEN MEN AND HE WON'T TALK!
UND SO, MEIN FUEHRER, OUR PLAN VOULD BE ASSURED OF SUCCESS IF ONLY DOT PRISONER VOULD GIFF US DER IN-FORMATION!
HMM--QUIET HERMAN MY INTUITION SS AT VORK!


I HAFF A PLAN MEIN FUEHRER! IT DER PRISONER ESCAPE DEN OUR MEN VILL FOLLOW HIM TO DER COMMANDO HIDE-OUT!
DUMKOPF! YOU STOLE DER VORDS RIGHT FROM MY MOUTH!
SEE DOT MINE PLANS ARE CARRIED OUT IMMEDIATELY!
JA MEIN FUEHRER!
THAT NIGHT THE PRISONER FINDS HIS DOOR UNGUARDED AND UNLOCKED...
THE ESCAPED COMMANDO IS PROVIDED WITH A BOAT BY A GERMAN SPY POSING AS A FRENCH FISHERMAN.....
THERE EES THE BOAT ZAT WEEL TAKE YOU SAFELY BACK TO ENGLAND!
THANKS, OLD BOY!
NAZI IN DISGUISE ON BARGE SAILS OUT INTO THE MOONLIT SEA IN PURSUIT OF THE SMALL CRAFT...

EFFERYTING IS VORKING ACCORDING TO PLAN--MY PLAN--DER FOOL IS LEADING US STRAIGHT TO OUR QUVARRY!
ENGLAND! I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE IT AGAIN!
VE HAFF ARRIVED! PREPARE FOR DIS-EMBARK-ING--QUIETLY! VE VILL OUT COMMANDO DER COMMANDOS, JA!
BAYONETS AND HELMETS GLEAMING IN THE MOONLIGHT, THE GERMANS FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF THE COMMANDO--
AND SOON COME UPON THE COMMANDO BARRACKS!
BEFORE VE START DER ATTACK, I VILL DRINK TO OUR SUCCESS--HANS, PASS DER CONTAINER OF BEER!
JA, HERR KAPITAN!

GLUG-GLUG--- SPLAT--SPLAT!
BURP
SH-SH-SH-- VE VILL BE OVERHEARD MEIN KAPITAN!
NEIN! I DON'T TINK DER SCHWEIN HEARD!
ATTACK!
COMMAND HEADQUARTERS

SHTOP! WHAT ARE WE FIRING FOR! DERE'S NOBODY HERE!
I'M NOT SURE! BUT I TINK SOMETING IS WRONG! VENNEFFER DER COMMANDOS VISIT US -- VE ARE ALWAYS DERE!
HERR KAPITAN, OUR ATTACK MUST HAVE COME AS A COMPLETE SURPRISE, DEY VERE SHCARED AWAY FROM DEIR SUPPERS!
HMM-- IS DOT SO!
JA - DEY MUST HAFF BEEN TAKEN BY SURPRISE TO HAFF LEFT SUCH A MEAL! ACH I DIDN'T REALIZE I VAS SO HUNGRY!
THEIR EQUIPMENT AND GUNS PILED HELTER-SKELTER ON THE FLOOR THE NAZIS GET TO WORK GORGING THEMSELVES WITH FOOD AND WINE---
THEY FELL FOR IT HOOK LINE AND SINKER! GET READY MEN!
GO!
VOSE ISS?
WHAM!

STUPIFIED BY THE SUDDEN ONSLAUGHT AND LOLLED INTO A STATE OF COMPLACENCY BY THE EXCELLENT FOOD AND WINE, THE NAZIS FALL EASY PREY TO THE COMMANDOS--AND ARE QUICKLY SUBDUED!
AS LONG AS YOU'RE THINKING OF GOING INTO THE BUSINESS, CAPTAIN, LET ME GIVE YOU A FEW POINTERS ON COMMANDO TACTICS! ALWAYS BLACKEN YOUR FACE AND HANDS AND NEVER DRINK BEER!--TOO MANY SOUND EFFECTS!
FUTHERMORE, BE CAREFUL OF CRACKING TWIGS! NEVER ALLOW THE MOONLIGHT TO GLINT OFF YOUR STEEL HELMET--AND ABOVE ALL NEVER BE SIDE-TRACKED FROM YOUR OBJECTIVE!
AND NOW, CAPTAIN, I'D LIKE SOME INFORMATION! WE UNDERSTAND THAT HITLER IS SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE! TELL US WHERE HE IS!!
YOU CAN'T MAKE ME TALK! I'M A PURE ARYAN!
SUIT YOURSELF! REMEMBER THIS COMMANDO? HE'S THE SAME ONE YOU TORTURED--AND THEN GET FREE IN ORDER TO FOLLOW HIM TO OUR BASE! NOW HE'S GOING TO TRY TO PERSUADE YOU TO TALK!
NO, NO! DON'T! SHTOP HIM--I'LL TALK - I'LL TALK!
DE PURER DE ARYAN, DE FASTER DEY TALK!
EXT NIGHT--SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE--
ACH, MEIN HEAD! I CAN'T SHLEEP! I TINK I GO TAKE A SHLEEPING PILL!

NOW I CAN GO TO BHLEEP! MAYBE -- UND NO MORE DREAMS ABOUT COMMANDO SCHVINE!
GULP! YOU AGAIN! HOW DID YOU GET IN TO MINE BEDROOM?
YOUR COMMANDOS OBLIGINGLY TOLD US ABOUT THE SECRET ENTRANCE, ADOLF, AND WE DECIDED TO REPAY YOUR POLITE SOCIAL VISIT!
NEIN!--DIS CAN'T BE! MY MEN VERE SUPPOSED TO CAPTURE YOU! DIS IS ANODDER HORRIBLE NIGHTMARE!
I'LL PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MISERY SWEET DREAMS, SCHICKLEGRUBER!
AW WHY DON'T WE JUST KNOCK HIM OFF NOW WHILE WE GOT THE CHANCE!
NO! THERE ARE OTHERS WHO DESERVE FIRST CRACK AT HIM! I WOULDN'T WANT TO CHEAT THEM OF THEIR REVENGE! WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED OUR OBJECTIVE! NOW LET'S BREEZE!
DON'T HIT ME AGAIN, PLEASE, CAPTAIN COMMANDO! V-VOT DEY'RE GONE!
IT VUZ ALL ANODDER HORRIBLE NIGHTMARE! BUT IT ALL SEEMED SO REAL! EVEN MY EYE SEEMS TO HURT VERE CAPTAIN COMMANDO STRUCK ME!
THE END

BE A HARD, TOUGH, COMMANDO SCRAPPER!

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